

Who first found Balanoglossus? By the Rev. Canon
NORMAN, M.A., D.C.L., F.R.S., &c.

I find that with respect to Cavolini's figure I have lighted on a "mare's nest." Professor Jeffrey Bell has consulted that author's posthumous work, and tells me that "on p. 296 there is a description of Tav. ii. (marked in Atlas ii. and xiv.) thus: 'fig. 1. *Fissofova bijuga* . . . gli ovari spirali *d*; fig. 4, ovario spirali;'" and that "at p. 342 the species is stated to be the *Agamolopsis* (sic) *Cavolini* of Delle Chiaje"*. What Cavolini calls the "ovario spirali"—which I took to be a figure, natural size, of a *Balanoglossus*—is, in fact (using Hæckel's terms), the greatly magnified pedicle, enidoband, and terminal filament of a tentillum of a Siphonophoridan. I have consulted all the chief works on the Siphonophoræ, but cannot meet with a figure which represents the anterior portion of a tentillum with such a collar and proboscis-like outline as is drawn by Cavolini; the figure most like on the whole, perhaps, is the illustration of the tentillum of *Forskalia tholoides*, Hæckel (Report 'Challenger' Siphonophoræ, 1888, pl. x. fig. 23), or that of *Stephanomia amphitridis*, Huxley ('Oceanic Hydrozoa,' 1859, pl. viii. fig. 8), where what he calls the "involuerum" must, I conclude, correspond with the collar-like portion of Cavolini's figure. In mistakingly supposing that Cavolini's figure was life-size and represented a *Balanoglossus*, the chief difficulty in the way of identification was the greatly produced and coiled termination: but it occurred to me that in life this part might be capable of greater elongation than had been represented in figures, and that, moreover, the old author might, in this respect, have drawn somewhat on his imagination. It is worth any one's while who is interested in *Balanoglossus* to look at this figure of Cavolini, and see the curious resemblance as regards the general form of this microscopic organ of a Siphonophoridan and the facies of a *Balanoglossus*.

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* On pl. clxxxi. of Chiaje, Anim. invert. Sicil. cit., are figures taken from Cavolini's figs., though not exact reproductions, fig. 4 (fig. 6 Chiaje) especially being much reduced in size, and thus not so much simulating *Balanoglossus*. I do not see any reference to these figures in the text. On the plate, fig. 3 (fig. 1, Cavolini) is called *Physsofophora bijuga*; figs. 4-6 are not referred to. I may add that there is no reference in Hæckel's Bibliography or List of known Siphonophoræ (Report 'Challenger' Siphonophoræ) either to Cavolini or Chiaje's Sicilian work, nor is the name referred to in Carus, Faun. Prod. Medit.